

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SAM-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8245

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 5155

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SPANISH JUNTA DEMOCRATICA

REF: STATE 107975

1. DURING VISIT TO ECHEVERRIA JUNE 12 I ASKED HIS OPINION OF THE RECENT VISIT OF THE SPANISH JUNTA. HE SAID THAT IN HIS OPINION FRANCO WOULD LAST ONLY A VERY SHORT TIME AND IN FACT HE ALREADY WAS "NOT GOVERNING NOW" DUE TO AGE AND ILL HEALTH. THE JUNTA IMPRESSED HIM WELL. I MADE THE ARGUMENT SET FORTH BY THE DEPT IN ITS TEL (STATE 107975) REGARDING POSSIBLE COMMUNIST DOMINATION OF THIS GROUP PLUS THE FACT THAT NEITHER THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS NOR THE MAJOR SOCIALIST PARTIES HAD BEEN WILLING TO JOIN. ECHEVERRIA SAID THAT UNDOUBTEDLY CARRILLO, THE COMMUNIST LEADER, WAS THE MOST IMPRESSIVE LEADER OF THE THREE-MAN TEAM THAT VISITED HIM AND SEEMED, IN FACT, TO DOMINATE THE GROUP. HE CLAIMS TO HAVE WARNED THEM THAT IF THE COMMUNISTS ATTEMPTED TO TAKE OVER, HISTORY WOULD MERELY REPEAT ITSELF IN SPAIN AND AND IT WOULD BE FACED WITH BLOODSHED. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMUNISTS IN A PARLIAMENTARY FORM OF GOVERNMENT SEEMED ACCEPTABLE.

2. I REPEATED THE TALKING POINTS REGARDING THE JUNTA DEMOCRATICA AND INDICATED THE HOPE THAT OTHER SOCIALISTS AND CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS MIGHT VISIT HERE. ECHEVERRIA SAID THAT TWO OR THREE MONTHS AGO HE HAD IN FACT RECEIVED ANOTHER SPANISH SOCIALIST THAT HAD NO COMMUNIST ATTACH-
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MENTS, THEREFORE HE WAS AWARE OF THE VARIOUS CURRENTS

EXISTING IN SPAIN.

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Message Attributes

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